

From: g muraks <garymoraes@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 22, 2020 2:24 PM

To: Mayor Jon Mitchell <jon.mitchell@newbedford-ma.gov>; Joseph Lopes <Joseph.Lopes@newbedford-ma.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Petition signed by majority of residents of Valentine St - please read and address

Mr. Mayor,

As the Park department has been unable to solve this problem, please help.

The situation in the park this and last week warrants a close look at the petition signed by the residents of Valentine Street, ward 6 below.

This petition was presented to the park department and was on the agenda for the first meeting that was cancelled due to the pandemic in March.

The summer is now upon us and the problems which should have been addressed are here in real time.

Many residents are elderly with asthma problems. We encourage use of park areas for picnics, but the strong wind pattern and many chemicals used in grilling have resulted in being unable to even open our windows and doors in the hot summer days.

To Board of Park Commissioners

ACTION ITEM REQUEST AND PETITION

The residents adjacent to Hazelwood park on the South West side wish to bring to the attention of the Park Board of Commissioners prior to the next summer season an issue of great concern regarding the location of the Grilling Area.

The Grilling area, with picnic tables and grill boxes was installed initially with the good intention to provide the return to the park a grilling area. Unfortunately for the residents adjacent to the park, the site of the area did not take into account the wind pattern, coming up from the Southwest from the water across the park and into the yards of neighbors adjacent to the park.

Even though the area is across the old access road, it is sited in the line of the wind path. This brings in the summer, when the area is in use, fumes from grilling and lighter fluid into the yard of residents adjacent to the park. Many residents are elderly and have asthma problems.

As the area is used on sunny summer days, all day long, and as residents as a result have been unable to use their decks or back yards as a result of fumes channeled via the Southwest winds which are now stronger than even for the better part of the day – this has resulted in an unhealthy situation.

A simple solution is recommended – the relocation of the grilling area and cluster of picnic tables to a more reasonable location, near the parking lot and playground which is the best overlook area of the park between the two building structures near the playground.

The advantages of this relocation are:

1. It illuminates the problem for residents in the wind path of the grilling area.
2. It provides easy access for picnic goers to set up their food area
3. It lets those with young children picnic and watch their children in the play area at the same time.
4. It provides a beautiful, if not the very best, overlook site to picnic in the park.
5. Given the addition of new tree planting for shade, this would make an even more outstanding family picnic area.

We have heard the desire for bathers to be near the beach as the initial motivation of the site as it stands now, however the planners did not take into account the problem that site poses due to wind patterns. The benefits of the new location make for an enhanced picnic experience for the majority of park goers. As the city has kindly added tables and chairs to the west beach pavilion area, the pavilion could serve as a mini grilling area for those who want to both go to the beach and picnic on site.

We ask the park board of commissioners to take into consideration the problem the grilling site now poses to the residents adjacent to the park, living downwind on the Valentine Street side of the park and the simple solution of relocation to eliminate the problem, hopefully in time to solve this situation prior to the upcoming summer season.

pl

Signed:

Name

Address

Date

Roxana T. Burt	70 Valentine St. N.B.	2/20/20
Eugene F. Wingley	72 Valentine St. N.B.	02/20/20
Mark N. Wingley	72 Valentine St. N.B.	02/20/20
Maria Bernardo	78 Valentine NB	02/20/20
Anton Bernard	78 VALENTINE NB	02/20/20
Gary Moran	76 Valentine St NB	02/20/20
Zenda Bernier	81 Valentine St. N.B.	2/20/20
Ryan Amador	71 VALENTINE ST NB	02/20/20
Jay "	79 Valentine St. NB	02/20/20
Pamela Evans	80 Valentine St NB	02/20/20
Derek	87 Valentine St NB	02/20/20
Pete Anthony	89 Valentine St NB	2/20/20
Edward R. Silva	93 VALENTINE ST N.B.	2/20/20
Yvonne Bourget	91 Valentine St NB	2-20-20
Matt Brasch	21 VALENTINE ST NB	2-20-20
Rachelle Wengert	23 Valentine St NB.	2-20-2020
Bruce C Bernier	13 Valentine St.	2-20-20
Joe Alves	14 Valentine St New Bedford, MA	2-20-20
MAMEL ALVES	14 " P2 "	" " 2-20-20
MARIA ALVES	14 " P2 "	" " 2-20-20

Signed:

Name

Address

Date

J. C. Dy 59 VALENTINE ST. 2/20/20
Jane E. Wrigley 70 VALENTINE ST 2/20/20
ANDREW TRAVERS 66 VALENTINE ST 2/20/20